



# PUBLIC NOTICE

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## PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU REMINDS SUBMARINE CABLE OPERATORS OF EFFECTIVE DATE OF NEW OUTAGE REPORTING RULES

### GN DOCKET NO. 15-206

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved the information collection associated with the *Report and Order*<sup>1</sup> and *Order on Reconsideration*<sup>2</sup> to improve outage reporting for submarine cables and enhanced submarine cable outage data.<sup>3</sup> By Public Notice, the Commission reminds submarine cable providers that the compliance date for these new rule provisions requiring mandatory reporting of qualifying submarine cable outages is **October 28, 2021**.<sup>4</sup>

Specifically, submarine cable licensees must report unplanned outages greater than 30 minutes on a portion of the cable system between submarine line terminal equipment (SLTE) or greater than four hours when it affects a fiber pair.<sup>5</sup> Licensees must submit this information using the FCC's Network Outage Reporting System (NORS).<sup>6</sup> The NORS user manual and glossary, including information on filing submarine cable outage reports, may be found at: <https://www.fcc.gov/files/nors-user-manualpdf>.

Questions regarding filing submarine cable outage reports should be directed to Julia Tu at (202) 418-0731 or [julia.tu@fcc.gov](mailto:julia.tu@fcc.gov), Engineer, or Scott Cinnamon at (202) 418-2319 or [scott.cinnamon@fcc.gov](mailto:scott.cinnamon@fcc.gov), Attorney-Advisor, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Cybersecurity and Communications Reliability Division.

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<sup>1</sup> *Improving Outage Reporting for Submarine Cables and Enhanced Submarine Cable Outage Data*, GN Docket No. 15-206, Report and Order, 31 FCC Rcd 7947 (2016).

<sup>2</sup> *Improving Outage Reporting for Submarine Cables and Enhanced Submarine Cable Outage Data*, GN Docket No. 15-206, Order on Reconsideration, 34 FCC Rcd 13054 (2019) (*Recon. Order*).

<sup>3</sup> OMB Control # 3060-1283.

<sup>4</sup> Federal Communications Commission, *Improving Outage Reporting for Submarine Cables and Enhanced Submarine Cable Outage Data*, 86 Fed Reg. 22360 (Apr. 28, 2021); *Recon. Order*, 34 FCC Rcd at 13067, para. 42.

<sup>5</sup> *Recon. Order*, 34 FCC Rcd at 13057-9, para. 11, 16-18.

<sup>6</sup> *Network Outage Reporting System* (Feb. 3, 2021), <https://www.fcc.gov/network-outage-reporting-system-nors>.